

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 171

By Pitts

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Geneva Bell upon receiving the 2006 Make a Difference Day Award and for her meritorious service to the citizens of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Geneva Bell of Clarksville, who will be honored this year for her achievements in coordinating individual programs for 2006 Make a Difference Day; chosen from among millions of participants, Geneva Bell will receive a \$10,000 award, which will go to a charity of her choosing; and

WHEREAS, Make a Difference Day is the most encompassing national day of helping others, a celebration of neighbors helping neighbors; created by *USA WEEKEND Magazine*, Make a Difference Day is an annual event that takes place on the fourth Saturday of every October; and

WHEREAS, Paul Newman, who donates all after-tax profits from sales of Newman's Own products to educational and charitable purposes, continued his support of Make a Difference Day, and he, along with a panel of judges that also included Good Morning America's Kate Snow, selected 10 projects to receive \$10,000; and

WHEREAS, when asked by people how it felt to have helped the less fortunate on Make a Difference Day, Ms. Bell's answer was honest and humble. "I don't feel people are less fortunate than myself" she said, adding that she feels God blesses all people in different ways and that people help one another through loving works; and

WHEREAS, in 2006, the seventh year the Clarksville community and Ms. Bell participated in Make A Difference Day, Geneva Bell and other community members raised over

\$2,000 through bake sales and community donations to help 26 people pay for and pass the Graduate Equivalency Diploma; and

WHEREAS, Geneva Bell's remarkable success as a community leader is directly attributable to her reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and her uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Geneva Bell plans to use the \$10,000 award to create a community youth center, emphasizing community education needs, as well as completing projects with the Mount Olive Cemetery; and

WHEREAS, an extremely giving person, Ms. Bell often reaches out with compassion to people whom life has treated unkindly, and she epitomizes the ideal of the reliable friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Geneva Bell for her dedication to her community and the state of Tennessee and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Geneva Bell for her meritorious service to the good people of Clarksville and our great State, congratulate her upon receiving the 2006 Make a Difference Day Award, and extend to her our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.